

Message Text

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15

ORIGIN NEA-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 PCH-02 AID-20

EB-11 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 COME-00

FEA-02 INT-08 SCI-06 /203 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:JEBRIGGS

APPROVED BY NEA/P:JEBRIGGS

S/PRS - MR. KING (INFO)

AF/P - MRS. RUSSELL

IO/P - MR. BLACHLY

EUR/P - MR. SAVAGE

NEA/EGY - MR. STERNER

H - MISS FOLGER (INFO)

----- 043627

R 011953Z FEB 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

USINT CAIRO

USINT DAMASCUS

USMISSION GENEVA

USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

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AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION NATO
SINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY SANAA BY POUCH

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR
SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING IS PARTIAL
EXCERPT FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING
FEBRUARY 1, 1974:

QUOTE: Q. COULD I READ TO YOU TWO STATEMENTS THAT APPEAR-
ED IN THE EGYPTIAN PRESS THIS MORNING AND INVITE YOU TO
COMMENT ON THEM.

T*IS IS AN ARTICLE BY MR. HAYKAL. HE SAYS THAT "THE UNITED
STATES SENT HUNDREDS OF SPECIALISTS TO ISRAEL IN THE USE
OF ELECTRONIC WEAPONS. THERE IS REASON TO BELIEVE THAT
THESE EXPERTS PARTICIPATED IN USING THEIR WEAPONS AGAINST
THE EGYPTIAN FORCES ."

AND THE SECOND PART -- THE SECOND STATEMENT HE MAKES IS,
"ACCORDING TO INFORMATION THAT CANNOT BE DOUBTED,THE
UNITED STATES AT ONE TIME MADE PLANS TO OCCUPY ABU DHABI."

WOULD YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS ON BOTH THOSE STATEMENTS?

A. ON BOTH STATEMENTS, I WOULD JUST SIMPLY SAY THEY ARE
UNTRUE.

Q. THERE HAVE BEEN REPORTS OF VARIOUS COMINGS AND GOINGS
INVOLVING THE MIDDLE EAST. IS THERE ANYTHING YOU CAN TELL
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US AT THIS POINT? WE SEEM TO BE ENTERING A NEW PERIOD OF
TRAVEL, INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL, INVOLVING SEVERAL COUNTRIES.

A. WELL, ON ALL OF THIS SPECULATION ABOUT TRAVEL OF
VARIOUS KINDS -- FIRST, KING HUSSEIN WAS ANNOUNCED AT THE
WHITE HOUSE THIS MORNING AND WILL SEE THE PRESIDENT ON THE
8TH AND HAVE MEETINGS WITH THE SECRETARY AND OTHER
OFFICIALS. THIS IS, AS YOU KNOW, A VISIT WHICH HE HAS

MADE A NUMBER OF TIMES, AND HE MADE A SIMILAR VISIT JUST ABOUT A YEAR AGO.

WE WOULD ANTICIPATE HE WOULD COVER THE WHOLE RANGE OF INTERESTS AS HE CUSTOMARILY DOES.

NOW, SIMILARLY, IN THE AREA OF TRAVEL, ONE OF YOU CALLED MY ATTENTION THIS MORNING TO A STORY THAT JOE SISCO WAS GOING TO THE MIDDLE EAST. AND IN THIS AREA OF TRAVEL I WOULD SAY THERE ARE NO SUCH PLANS.

Q. TO REACH THE SECRETARIAL LEVEL, A HIGH U.S. OFFICIAL LED SEVERAL OF US TO BELIEVE THAT IF THINGS REACHED THE POINT WHERE HE COULD SERVE A USEFUL MEDIATIVE ROLE IN THE SYRIAN OR THE JORDANIAN DISENGAGEMENT PROSPECTS WITH ISRAEL, HE WOULD BE WILLING TO STEP IN. CAN YOU TELL US IF THINGS HAVE CRYSTALLIZED, WHICH I GUESS IS THE SENIOR OFFICIALS MOST OFTEN USED WORD -- HAVE THEY CRYSTALLIZED TO THE POINT WHERE HE IS ABOUT TO TRAVEL OR ENTER THE FIELD?

A. I THINK WHAT I SHOULD SAY HERE IS THERE ARE NO TRAVEL PLANS AT THE PRESENT TIME, TO THE MIDDLE EAST.

Q. YESTERDAY DR. KISSINGER WAS RATHER OPTIMISTIC THAT THE OIL EMBARGO WOULD BE LIFTED BY THE ARAB STATES. HOWEVER, SINCE THEN FIVE ARAB NATIONS HAVE ANNOUNCED THAT THEY HAD NO INTENTION AT ALL AT THIS TIME OF LIFTING THE EMBARGO. IS DR. KISSINGER AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT AS ENTHUSIASTIC TODAY AS IT WAS YESTERDAY?

A. I AM SURE WHEN DR. KISSINGER SPOKE YESTERDAY HE SPOKE IN FULL KNOWLEDGE OF THE FACT AND FEELS THE SAME TODAY AS HE DID YESTERDAY. END QUOTE. KISSINGER
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NOTE BY OC/T: POUCHED SANAA.

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30 JUN 2005

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